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## **VS project - Interview with Echoplex and Galax6**

### **Who are VS Project?**

VS project is Peter Sliwinski (aka ECHOPLEX), Polish/Canadian composer, producer and dj. Producing, releasing and performing around the globe for more than 10 years..Peter is responsible for arrays of releases on the following labels: Soleil, Synewave, Black Nation, Sonic Mind, End to End, Mechanism, Cetron, Nova Mute, Mosquito, Mutter, LL, Semi Automatic, GFR, High School. His works were licenced to such labels like: M\_nus, Torema, Tresor. Besides his main project Echoplex, he has also recorded and released as Del Sud, Muza, Les Autres Circuites and DP.

And Christophe "krist" Antonio (aka GALAX6), french multimedia artist living in Barcelona. Also working as graphic/web designer, video producer , he has been involved with electronic music for a while. "Artworking" on many flyers, labels releases (Forward, High School, Application, Sunn)...Supporting, reporting electronic music events, and promoting emerging techno artists (division313.com). This is his very first collaboration on a duo live performance project.

### **What is VS about?**

**P:** VS is about music and video, about sound and image. Mixed in together on stage to form a true Mind and Body Experience.

**K:** It's about sharing with people our point of view on the past and future of electronic music. This cant be totally objective as the techno movement took a lot of different directions. But we keep in mind that it all comes from the same roots. VS is also a graphic/video live act, so i made original artworks especially for the performance. Image took a big place in techno identity in the past, from the acidhouse smilies to hardcore darkest stuff. Space theme refers more to the Detroit pioneers , "The Final Frontier" (UR,1991).

### **How was it born?**

**P:** Like many projects of this kind it was born online. I've met with Kristopher after playing at the Moog Club in Barcelona. Funny thing is that he was there during my performance but we didn't speak at all. Sometime after we touched basis online and that's how it all started.

**K:** Thanks to the Internet :) Actually, VS is also the child of new technologies, Peter living in Warsaw, and me in Barcelona, we had to prepare and exchange ideas only by mail or chats.

### **Why do it multimedia?**

**P:** I wanted to use multimedia for a while as I always thought that sounds and images are part of each other. I realize now that Electronic Music and Visual Art combined form a far greater experience for the performer as well as for the audience.

**K:** The project is not just visuals added to a musical live performance. Peter and I complete each other. One can't say if it is a visual performance with music or a techno live act with image. I think we both thought about making a true multimedia live act, respecting and playing with the work of one other.

### **Who you think this project is made for?**

**P:** It is basically made for everyone that enjoys having fun with technology.

**K:** Like every culture, the electronic movement has its own references and histories. But i think that thanks to the quality of Peter's tracks and the dynamism of the screen, even a martian would enjoy the show :)

**What do you think people will get after living the VS experience?**

**P:** We hope for a positive feedback. Is hard to say, most likely everyone will get something else out of it. Whatever may be, the experience for us will be definitely inspirational for future ventures.

**K:** Good moment for eyes and ears, great techno music with visual stimulation.

**Which is the central message or messages in VS, if there is/are any?**

**P:** We Art Free is a concept that Krist has come with.

I can say that it states exactly what VS project is all about. Feeling free, being free and going free in any direction that we may want to go.

**K:** Nowadays, technology allows us to mix image, sound, space, time, people, machines...

The "We Art Free" idea is very simple and the name says it all. It's about feeling free to create, mixing any kind of media, without minding the Art frontiers.

**How does music/video link one to each other? Is it synchronized via computer, or just artists jamming one over other?**

**P:** This is done in number of ways. The music itself is jammed out live, with the use of synthesizers, drum machines, fx processors. All mixed in Live on the spot. Where it comes to the visual aspect of it, some images are static, some are matematically synchronized via Musical Interface Digital Instrument yet other steals, photos and visuals are mixed in randomly.

**K:** Although I can also synchronize the image with Peter's music, thanks to computer programs. I prefer the idea of jamming live, like jazzmen do as it is much more fun. Do not expect the same show at each gig ;)

**Which you think is the role of techno art in contemporary society, and which expressive ways you think it has developed; I mean is it just a music made for dancefloor or is there something more? If so, What?**

**P:** The role of techno was always to create something that brakes all the rules and barriers. Techno at the begining was more of an invention and statement. Now it has become more of a kind of trend with its own fashion involved. Its overall global impact is felt everywhere. Techno caused huge changes in the development of technology. Suddenly all kinds of companies wanted to take part in it, wanting to manufacture equipment. Huge markets were created around it. The aim was to make everything to perform faster, more economically and pocket size. This had tremendous impact on the music creation and music business in general.

Techno had developed many expressive ways, nowadays at a comfort of your own home we can record, produce and release music, write a script and make our own films, create our own software, build custom made computers, modify equipment to make new things with it. It seems like there is no end to this. Techno has become a language that everyone can speak and understand.

**K:** Techno is a musical side of the human technologic evolution. As Man was developing cars, television, computers, this race for new technology had to have its artistic form of expression. So New wave came after Disco, using new synthesizers instead of guitars, vocoders instead of singers. People were scared about that because, till then, technology was only used for material things. This new way of making art with machines took a long time to be accepted. Now, computers are the main creation tool.

**Final message to the world from VS project leaders?**

**P:** We are out there, come and join us.

**K:** we are you are us.